

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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O R 061435Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3646
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
NSC WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
DIA WASHDC
USMISSION SINAI

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USIAC FOR IOP/M

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, EG, US
SUBJ: MEDIA ON SADAT AT WHITE HOUSE

REF CAIRO 5738,

1. CAIRO MEDIA APRIL 6 AGAIN DOMINATED BY CARTER AND SADAT
TALKS WHICH, ALL PAPERS BANNER, HAVE LED TO "IMPORTANT
RESULTS".

2. PEACE PROCESS. AHAM REPORTS EGYPT, ASSUMING PEACE PROCESS
WILL BEGIN AT ONCE, HAS ASKED FOR A COMPLETE US VISUALIZATION
OF PERMANENT AND JUST FINAL SETTLEMENT, USG "WELCOMED"
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THIS REQUEST, PLEDGING TO WORK FOR MEPC IN SECOND HALF OF
1977 AT A DATE TO BE FIXED AFTER PRES CARTER'S MEETINGS WITH
OTHER ARAB LEADERS AND AFTER SEC VANCE'S MAY TALKS WITH
GROMYKO. AHAM REREPORTED THAT EGYPT SPECIFICALLY ASKED ALSO
FOR CLEAR US DEFINITION OF TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, A DEF-
INITION OF TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, A DEFINITION GOE
BELIEVES SHOULD BE MADE ON BASIS THAT SECURE BORDERS MEANS

RESPECT FOR RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL BORDERS, BUT DOES NOT MEAN ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB LAND. USG REPORTEDLY AFFIRMED ISSUE OF INTERNATIONAL BORDERS IS GOVERNED BY "RECOGNIZED PRINCIPLE", MINOR ADJUSTMENTS WOULD OCCUR ON BOTH SIDES AND AFFECT THOSE VILLAGES NOW DIVIDED. USG MADE CLEAR THAT CONCERN FOR SECURITY DOES NOT MEAN SUPPORT OF MILITARY EXPANSION AND THAT ACHIEVEMENT PEACE REQUIRES SECURITY FOR BOTH SIDES. GUMHURIYYA REPORTER "LEARNED" US CONCEPT OF BORDERS DIFFERS FROM GOI'S.

3. ARMS. MEDIA CONTINUES RESOLUTELY OPTIMISTIC THAT US WILL PROVIDE EGYPT WITH F-5'S AND OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT. GUMHURIYYA BANNERS "SADAT ASKS FOR AMERICAN FIGHTERJETS AND ARMS". LOCAL MEDIA REPORTS SADAT ANNOUNCES HE HAS ASKED FOR F-5'S AND EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS TRAVELING WITH SADAT ADD IT HAS BEEN "OFFICIALLY LEARNED" THAT EGYPTIAN REQUEST TO PURCHASE MILITARY EQUIPMENT IS "OFFICIAL" AND IS NOW BEING DISCUSSED BY USG. GUMHURIYYA CLAIMS PENTAGON HAS AGREED AND DECISION NOW RESTS WITH PRES CARTER. AHRAH FEATURE PICTURE IS OF SADAT AND SECDEF BROWN.

4. PALESTINE. "RESPONSIBLE SOURCES" REPORTEDLY AFFIRMED TO AHRAH THAT US NOW CONVINCED OF NECESSITY OF ESTABLISHING PALESTINIAN STATE AND OF BRINGING PLO INTO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. GUMHURIYYA REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON THAT USG BELIEVES PALESTINIAN SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN SOME FASHION AT "AN ADVANCED STAGE" OF MEPC. WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN IS ALSO QUOTED, HOWEVER, AS SAYING NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON BEST APPROACH TO PALESTINIAN PROBLEM.
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5. AFRICA. WE HAVE HEARD WESTERN RADIO COMMENTATORS DISCUSSING CONCEPT THAT EGYPT IMPORTANT TO USG STRATEGIC PLANNING IN AFRICA (AS WELL AS ME), GIVEN SOVIET INCURSION IN HORN AND ELSEWHERE. THIS TOPIC NOT DISCUSSED IN EGYPTIAN MEDIA REPORTING.

6. EDITORIALS. PERHAPS REFLECTING LACK OF GUIDANCE, AHRAH DOES NOT TODAY DISCUSS SADAT VISIT. GUMHURIYYA REWRITES OLD STORY OF "ISRAELI ANXIETY" ABOUT SADAT VISIT AND AKHBAR PROVIDES RETREAD OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE SUBSTANTIVE PALESTINIAN ISSUE.

7. COMMENT: SADAT AS USUAL IS PLAYING TO MANY AUDIENCES: USG, US CONGRESS, US PUBLIC OPINION, ARABS, PALESTINIANS AND EGYPTIANS (ESPECIALLY MILITARY). GIVEN OBVIOUS CONSTRICTIONS ON ANNOUNCING MAJOR STEPS IN PEACE PROCESS, BILATERAL ISSUES GAINING CONSIDERABLE PRESS ATTENTION, WITH HIGHLY OPTIMISTIC STORIES OF ARMS ACQUISITION TAKING

MOST SPACE. WHILE NO PAPER ALLEGES USG HAS MADE ANY
FINAL DECISIONS, IMPLICATION THAT USG LIKELY COME DOWN
ON SIDE OF SOME MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS CLEARLY DESIGNED
HEARTEN EGYPTIAN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.
MATTHEWS

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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